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PATENT APPLICATION
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of

~~Hiroto HORIKAWA~~

Group Art Unit: 2851

~~Application No.: 09/327,621~~

Examiner: P. Kim

~~Filed: June 8, 1999~~

Docket No.: 101809.03

~~For: STAGE UNIT, DRIVE TABLE, AND SCANNING EXPOSURE APPARATUS USING THE SAME~~

#26/Amold E
K. Tyson
8/24/02

AMENDMENT FILED WITH RCE

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

After entry of the attached Request for Continued Examination (RCE), and in reply to the Final Rejection dated March 12, 2002, the shortened statutory period for reply being extended by the attached Petition for Extension of Time, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace claims 38, 59, 66, 71, 76 and 88 as follows:

38. (Three Times Amended) A stage apparatus comprising:
- a first stage that is movable linearly in a first direction;
 - a second stage that is movable in said first direction and in a second direction perpendicular to said first direction with respect to said first stage, said second stage is a guideless stage having no associated guide member to guide its movement;
 - a first electromagnetic actuator that drives said second stage with a second thrust in said second direction with respect to said first stage; and